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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.          | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 10/567,068   | 02/03/2006  | Martin J. Edwards    | 14509-0138US1 /<br>P080486SE | 9468             |
| 26161 7590 11/09/2009<br>FISH & RICHARDSON PC<br>P.O. BOX 1022<br>MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022 |             |                      |                              |                  |
| EXAMINER   |             |                      |                              |                  |
| STTA, GRANT  |             |                      |                              |                  |
| ART UNIT   |             | PAPER NUMBER         |                              |                  |
| 2629   |             |                      |                              |                  |
| NOTIFICATION DATE  |             | DELIVERY MODE        |                              |                  |
| 11/09/2009   |             | ELECTRONIC           |                              |                  |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PATDOCTC@fr.com

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/567,068

**Applicant(s)**

EDWARDS, MARTIN J.

**Examiner**

GRANT D. SITTA

**Art Unit**

2629

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 July 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 February 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/5508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

1. Figure 2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Edwards et al (2002/0054005), hereinafter Edwards, in view of Park et al (6,160,535) hereinafter, Park.

5. In regards to claim 1, Edwards discloses the limitations of an active matrix display device comprising a row and column array of picture elements [0001], sets of row and column address conductors for selecting rows of picture elements (fig. 1 18 and 19) and providing data signals to the picture elements of a selected row respectively (fig. 1 25 and 21), drive means for supplying selection signals and multi-bit digital data signals [0002] respectively to the set of row address conductors and the set of column address conductors (fig. 7 18 and 19), in which the multi-bit digital data signals supplied to the column address conductors are converted into analogue voltage [0001-0003, 0006] levels for use by the picture elements by a plurality of serial charge redistribution digital to analogue conversion means [0003, 0009-0012], each conversion means comprising at least first and second capacitances interconnectable by at least one conversion switch (fig. 7 (31A and 31B)) and between which charge is shared, and in which the first and second capacitances of a conversion means are provided by the capacitances of two column address conductors [0021-0028]

Edwards differs from the claimed invention in that Edwards does not expressly disclose wherein the picture elements in a column are of the same colour and adjacent columns of picture elements are of different colours, and wherein the first and second

capacitances of a digital to analogue conversion means comprise two column address conductors that are both associated with the same colour of picture elements.

However, Park teaches a system and method wherein picture elements in a column are of the same colour and adjacent columns of picture elements are of different colours (fig. 3A S1 is R and adjacent in S2 G and fig. 4 R", G" and B"), (col. 3, lines 13-37 of Parks).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify Edwards such that the picture elements in a column are of the same colour and adjacent columns of picture elements are of different colours as taught by Parks in order to drive a color display with reduced power consumption, since each column of color can be addressed together, as stated in (col. 2, lines 22-45 of Park) and to decrease circuit complexity for ease of manufacturing.

Therefore, Edwards as modified by Park teaches and wherein the first and second capacitances of a digital to analogue conversion means (fig. 7 31A and B, 19, 18 [001-003] Edwards) comprise two column address (fig. 7 19 A and B Edwards) conductors that are both associated with the same colour (fig. 4. R" for R11 and R12 Parks) of picture elements (fig. 3A S1 is R and adjacent in S2 G, col. 3, lines 13-37 of Parks).

6. In regards to claim 2, Edwards as modified by Park teaches an active matrix display device according to claim 1, wherein the two column conductors of a conversion

means comprise adjacent column conductors that are both associated (fig. 8 32 is connected to more than multiple columns Edwards) with the same colour picture elements (fig. 3A S1 is R and adjacent in S2 G), (col. 3, lines 13-37 of Parks).

7. In regards to claim 3, Edwards as modified by Park teaches an active matrix display device according to claim 1, wherein for each conversion means the picture elements in a row associated with the conversion means are connected to different row address conductors (fig. 1 18 for each row Edwards).

8. In regard to claim 4, Edwards as modified by Park teaches an active matrix display device according to claim 3, wherein the picture elements in a column are connected alternately to the different row address conductors (fig. 1 and 7 18 Edwards). Examiner notes they are all connected to different row address conductors.

9. In regards to claim 5, Edwards as modified by Park teaches an active matrix display device according to claim 1, wherein the device comprises a liquid crystal display device (abstract AMLCD or active matrix LCD Edwards).

***Response to Arguments***

10. Applicant's arguments filed 07/01/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

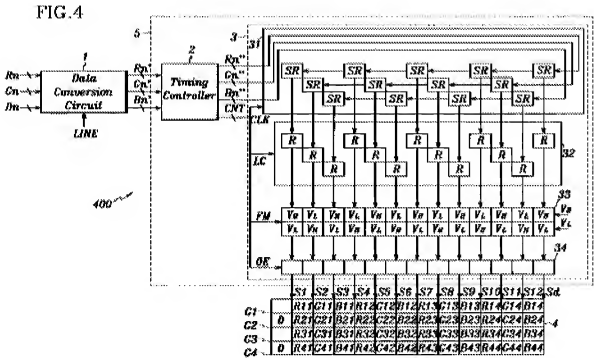
11. Examiner thanks Applicant for the well written response, however, examiner respectfully disagrees. Applicant asserts the prior art of record fails to teach "wherein the first and second capacitances of a digital to analogue conversion means comprise two column address conductors that are both associated with the same colour of picture elements." (Remarks, pg 5, 2<sup>nd</sup> ¶). A person of ordinary skill in the art, when applying the techniques of arrange color pixels as taught by Parks to the digital to analog conversion scheme of Edwards would teach the elements of the current application. Fig. 2 of the current application shows schematically part of a D/A conversion means in a know display device, as described in (pg 8, lines 4-20) WO 02/21496 / PG PUB 2002/0054005 (Examiner notes Fig 7 of Edwards 2002/0054005 does not have the color labels).



However, Parks teaches a technique to a system and method wherein picture elements in a column are of the same colour and adjacent columns of picture elements are of different colours (fig. 4 Rn", Gn" and B"), i.e. a driving means that groups common color columns. Examiner notes each column is made of a single color that alternates R, G, and B, while each color is group above to Rn", G" and B". The colors



are often grouped because of common characteristics associated with the different colors.



It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify Edwards such that the picture elements in a column are of the same colour and adjacent columns of picture elements are of different colours as taught by Parks in order to drive a color display with reduced power consumption, since each column of color can be addressed together, as stated in (col. 2, lines 22-45 of Park) and to decrease circuit complexity for ease of manufacturing.

***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Makino et al (6,097,365) common color driver.

Kwak et al (2006/0007073) common color driver.

1. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GRANT D. SITTA whose telephone number is (571)270-1542. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz can be reached on 571-272-3638. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sumati Lefkowitz/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629

/Grant D Sitta/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2629  
October 28, 2009